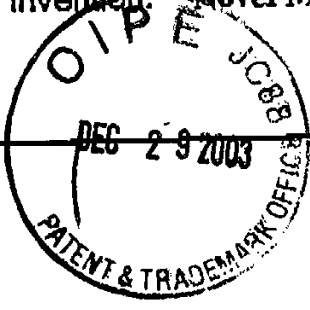
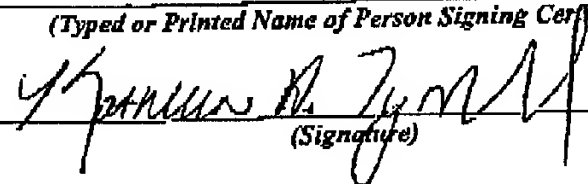


<b>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)</b>			Docket No. <b>DEX-0054</b>
Applicant(s): <b>Robbins et al.</b>			
Serial No. <b>09/426,548</b>	Filing Date <b>October 22, 1999</b>	Examiner <b>Woitach, Joseph T.</b>	Group Art Unit <b>1632</b>
Invention: <b>Novel Mutation in Human MLH1 and Human MSH2 Genes Useful in Diagnosing Colorectal Cancer</b>			
			
I hereby certify that this <u><b>Preliminary Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time</b></u> (Identify type of correspondence) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. <u><b>703-872-9307</b></u> ) on <u><b>December 23, 2003</b></u> (Date)			
<div style="text-align: right;"><u><b>Kathleen A. Tyrrell</b></u> (Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)  (Signature)</div>			
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**COMBINED AMENDMENT & PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF  
TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) (Large Entity)**Docket No.  
**DEX-0054**

The fee for the amendment and extension of time is to be paid as follows:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$950.00 for the amendment and extension of time is enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1619 in the amount of \$950.00
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1619
- ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.
- ☒ If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor and charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-1619

  
SignatureDated: December 23, 2003

Kathleen A. Tyrrell, Registration No. 38,350

**LICATA & TYRRELL P.C.**  
66 East Main Street  
Marlton, New Jersey 08053  
Tel: 856-810-1515  
Fax: 856-810-1454

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited  
on \_\_\_\_\_ with the U.S. Postal Service as  
first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the  
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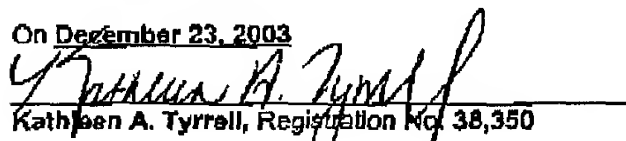
## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: DEX-0054  
Inventors: Robbins et al.  
Serial No.: 09/426,548  
Filing Date: October 22, 1999  
Examiner: Woitach, Joseph T.  
Group Art Unit: 1632  
Title: Novel Mutation in Human MLH1 and Human  
MSH2 Genes Useful in Diagnosing  
Colorectal Cancer

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On December 23, 2003

  
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Dear Sir:

Preliminary Amendment

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed in response to the recent Advisory Action wherein the Examiner refused to enter the amendment filed September 30, 2003. This Preliminary Amendment addresses issues raised in this Advisory Action as well as the Office Action mailed June 30, 2003. A Request for Continued Examination, a Petition for a three (3) month extension of time,

Attorney Docket No.: DEX-0054  
Inventors: Robbins et al.  
Serial No.: 09/426,548  
Filing Date: October 22, 1999  
Page 2

and the requisite fees are provided herewith. Please enter the following amendments and remarks into the record.

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6.